

writes us: "So far as I have any record this is the first collection of the species in Massachusetts, but in view of its general wide range and its occurrence in adjacent states, its presence in Massachusetts is not surprising."

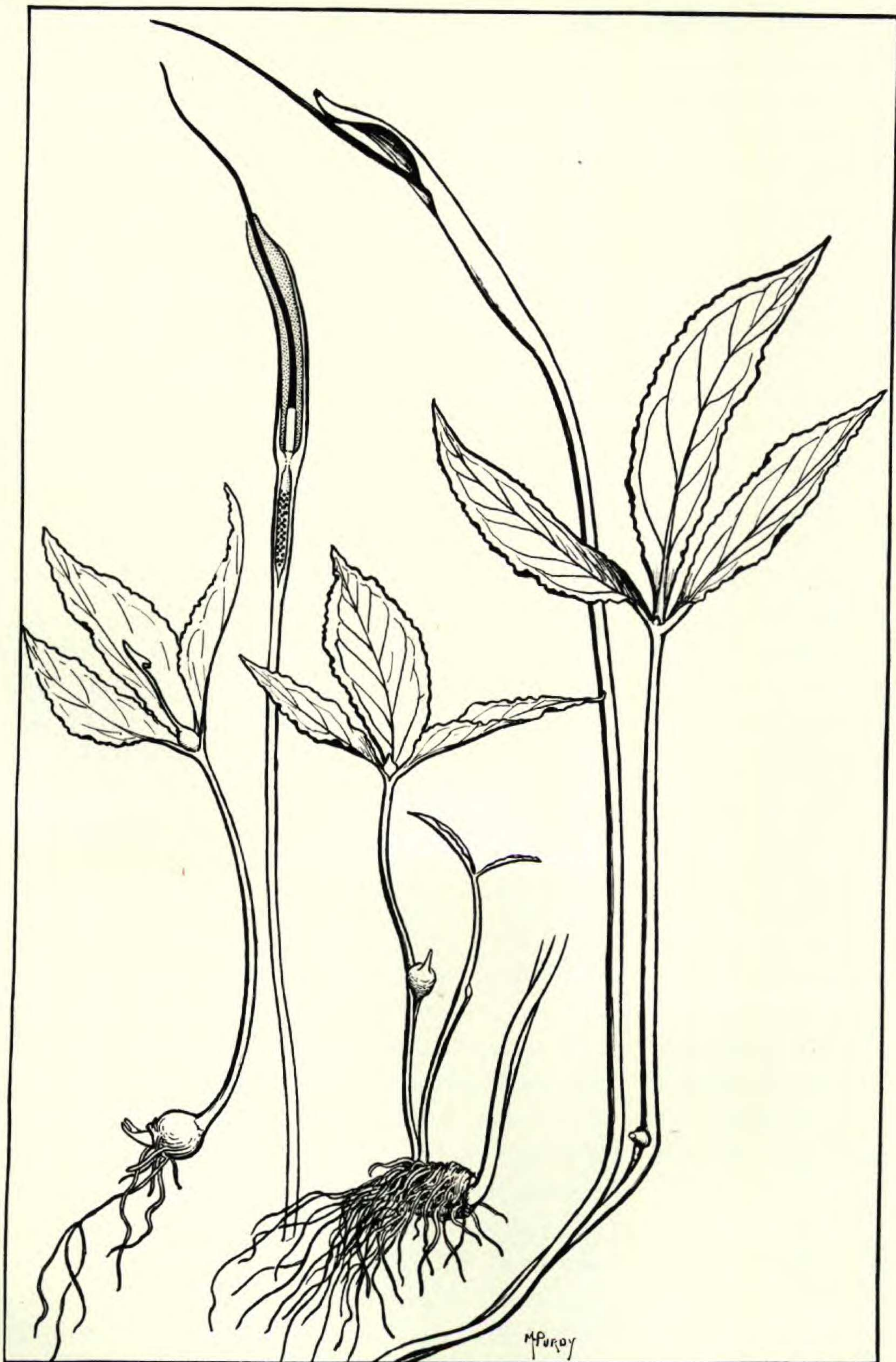
Mr. Bachand responded graciously to a request for additional material by sending us some thirty plants, of which about one-third were the common *Euphorbia maculata* L. So the two species were apparently growing in close association.

Sheets have been deposited in the Gray and the New England Botanical Club Herbaria, also at the National Herbarium in Washington and at the Massachusetts State College.—R. E. TORREY, Massachusetts State College, Amherst.

PINELLIA TERNATA IN BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

MARY-ELIZABETH PIERCE

To the lengthening list of exotic plants which seem able to maintain themselves adventitiously in eastern United States should be added *Pinellia ternata* (Thunb.) Breitenbach, a member of the Araceae widely distributed in China and Japan. The ternately dissected leaves, about eight inches high, and the slender, typically aroid flower-stalk, ten to twelve inches long, arise from a brittle, subterranean rhizome. Bulblets are produced on the leaf-stalk, both below the ground line and at the joining of the leaflets. These bulblets sometimes sprout into young plants before they fall from the parent stem. The colony at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden was discovered in August of 1941 on a grassy bank near a brook. It covers several square feet and seems to be well established. In fact, we suspect that this is not its first year with us and wonder how long it has escaped notice. With its bulblets and root-stocks it seems able to make itself thoroughly at home. The plants were in flower about the tenth of August. Just how the plant was introduced is quite a mystery, since no new planting has been made in that area for at least five years. In the National Herbarium there is a specimen labeled *Pinellia tripartita* collected in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, in May of 1935, "accidentally introduced." This specimen closely resembles our plant and from the published descriptions there seems to be very little difference be-



M. Purdy del.

PINELLIA TERNATA, about 1/2

tween the species. There is a possibility that *Pinellia ternata* might be of some use as a ground-cover, but the writer would hesitate to plant it in competition with any horticultural treasure. Since the species does not seem to have been adequately illustrated, Miss Purdy has kindly made the accompanying drawing.

BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN

TWO PLANTS NEWLY ADVENTIVE IN NORTH AMERICA

E. J. ALEXANDER

Two interesting east Asiatic plants have made their appearance within the last few years in the local area around New York. Since neither has been cultivated in the United States, they are clearly adventives, and show evidence of persisting as newcomers to the flora of North America.

In June of the present year, when the writer was giving a lecture on wild flowers to the Flushing Garden Club, one of the club members, Mrs. Ralph Stoddard, brought up a specimen of a creeping, vine-like plant with dandelion-like flowers which had appeared in her lawn and persisted there several years. No one had ever seen anything like it, nor could they identify the plant. Upon dissection of one of the flower-heads the plant was found to be a species of *Lactuca*. Checking through that genus it was found to be *Lactuca stolonifera* (Gray) Maxim., native in Shantung, the Korean Archipelago and Japan. The habit of the plant is totally unlike our familiar lactucas. It is a delicate creeper, rooting at the nodes and sending up 1-2-flowered peduncles 8-10 cm. tall, the heads about 2.5 cm. across in flower. The leaf-blades are 1-2.5 cm. long, ovate, entire, pale green, glaucous beneath, on long, slender petioles, the entire plant glabrous. The only station so far recorded is in Flushing, N. Y. but the plant may appear elsewhere. A specimen has been deposited in the herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden.¹

The second plant is equally interesting. In July, 1937, Mr. Robert W. Storer sent to the New York Botanical Garden a

¹ *Lactuca stolonifera* was brought to the Gray Herbarium in June, 1939, by Mrs. Stillman P. Williams, as "a pest" in a garden at Media, Pennsylvania.—Eds.